



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Assembly Bill 711	Assembly Substitute Amendment 2
Memo published: February 1, 2002 Contact: Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2680)	

2001 Assembly Bill 711 (AB 711) is a congressional redistricting plan, based on the results of the 2000 U.S. Census. In accordance with the Census, the bill decreases the number of congressional districts from nine to eight.

Under federal law, congressional districts must be as uniform in population as is practicable. The plan in AB 711 is a zero deviation plan, with the smallest district (the 1st) deviating from the ideal congressional district population of 670,459 by two people and the largest two districts (the 6th and the 8th) each deviating by three people.

AB 711 requires the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB), in enrolling any redistricting plan that has passed both houses of the Legislature, to attach an updated appendix that includes specified information about the plan, including the population statistics for the congressional districts created and various maps.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 2 (ASA 2) is also a zero deviation plan. The smallest congressional district (the 2nd) has two fewer persons than the ideal district population, while the largest two districts (the 3rd and the 7th) each have three more persons than the ideal. ASA 2 requires the LRB to attach the same information to an enrolled redistricting bill as does AB 711.

ASA 2 makes the following changes to AB 711:

1. AB 711 treated several municipal islands (territory of a city or town which is physically separated from the rest of the municipality) as contiguous to the municipality even though physically separated, for purposes of placement in a congressional district. For example, the Town of Ottawa in Waukesha County has two islands which are physically surrounded by the Village of North Prairie. In AB 711, these islands were placed in the 5th district, with the rest of the Town of Ottawa. ASA 2 places such islands in the congressional district with which they are physically contiguous. Thus, in ASA 2,

the two islands of the Town of Ottawa are placed in the 1st district, as is the surrounding community of the Village of North Prairie.

2. Since some town and city islands have population, moving an island from one congressional district to another, as described in item 1., changes the population of each district. This requires moving additional territory from one district to the other to balance the population shifted in moving the island, in order to maintain zero deviation. ASA 2 makes a number of these population shifts.

3. ASA 2 incorporates the technical correction moving a census block of the Town of Worden in Clark County from the 7th district to the 3rd that was contained in Assembly Amendment 1 to AB 711.

ASA 2 was introduced by Representatives Huber and Ladwig and adopted by the Assembly on January 24, 2002. The Assembly passed AB 711, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 78; Noes, 21, on January 29, 2002.

PS:rv;ksm